Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The Proprietors of these factories submitted a petition on 8th March 1945 stating that these factories are not working at present. The reason alleged is that there are no military orders, their production being handmade and also want of railway wagon to supply for civil consumption.

The total number of labourers working in these factories is 184 adults and 47 adolescents. The Manager of the St. Joseph's Union Tile Works has now reported that his factory has resumed work from 22nd Kumbham 1120.

(*b*) In addition to the factories referred to in (a) the Muringoor Tile Factory, Muringoor had also closed work for a few days owing to accumulation of stock.

(*c*) No special enquiry was conducted at the accumulation of stock was mainly due to want of transport facilities which has now become difficult owing to the general war situation.

LAUNCHES PLYING IN THE FERRY

450. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) is the Government aware of the stranding of launches that ply in the ferry in the mere vicinity of the landing place at Ernakulam;

(*b*) will Government be pleased to state the difficulties, if any, to have the approaches to the landing place at Ernakulam dredged so that launches may go to the landing place without stranding?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Large ferry boats sometimes get stranded during low tides near the Ernakulam Ferry Jetty. At such times however, they touch at the Huzur Jetty where there is sufficient depth of water.

(*b*) The approach is shallow for a short length during low tide. To keep this portion deep enough it has to be dredged and maintained constantly as the cross currents at the place soon fill the dredged portions.

MOTOR IN THE CHITTUR HOSPITAL

451. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how long is it since the motor fitted in the well in Chittur hospital has gone out of order;

(*b*) how do the hospital authorities supply water to the operation rooms, etc., now;

(*c*) had not the Diwan when he visited the hospital last, order the replacement of it at once;

(*d*) what stands in the way of the Government for providing this necessity?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) Nearly a year and a half.

(*b*) Water is drawn from the well and supplied to the wards and theatre.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Arrangements are being made to rectify the defect of the motor and to put it in working order.

PERSONAL ASSISTANTS TO DEPARTMENTAL HEADS

452. Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narakkal):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the names of Departments in which Personal Assistants have been appointed;

(*b*) the circumstances and the necessity of those appointments;

(*c*) the dates of sanction of the posts and their appointments;

(*d*) powers and functions assigned to each;

(*e*) whether any of these assistants have been given extra work;

(*f*) whether they are given any allowance?

Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E. *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Revenue, Education, Public Works, Police, Forest, Excise and Food Supplies Departments.

(*b* to *f*) The information collected is contained in the statement placed on the Council Table.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly